

Intimations.

DAKIN BROS. OF CHINA, LIMITED.

CHEMISTS.
AGENTS FOR PARKER, DAVIS & Co.,
SPECIALITIES.
CASCARA CORDIAL.

A non-secret preparation of the now universally used Cascara Sagrada.

In those cases of constipation and indigestion where Cascara is indicated, this cordial can be used with confidence; it is pleasantly flavoured and combined with aromatics that prevent griping, and covers the objectionable bitter taste which is the one great objection to the use of this medicine.

Sold in original flasks at \$1.25.
CONCENTRATED DISTILLED EXTRACT
WITCH HAZEL.

This preparation, sold under various fancy names, has gained the position of a household remedy for wounds, bruises, inflammation, &c.

In the treatment of piles it often alone suffices to effect a cure, but its most important use will be in the treatment of traumatic injuries, including sprains, bruises, contusions, cuts, burns, contused and incised wounds, as well as corns, bunions, chapped lips, fissured nipples, ulcers, the bites or stings of insects, &c.

P. D. & Co.'s preparation is equal to any of the brands sold under proprietary names and is about one third the price.

In pint bottles at cents 75.



BY APPOINTMENT.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

MANUFACTURERS OF AERATED
WATERS.

OUR AERATED WATER MANUFACTORY is replete with the best Machinery, embodying all the latest improvements in the trade.

The greatest attention has been paid to appliances for ensuring purity in the Water-supply, to secure which we have added a Condenser capable of supplying with 500 gallons of distilled water a day, and are now in a position to compete in quality with the best English Makers. Our Sweet Waters cannot be surpassed anywhere.

The purest ingredients only are used, and the utmost care and cleanliness are exercised in the manufacture throughout.

LARGE BOMBAY

"SODAS"

We continue to supply large bottles as heretofore, *free of Extra Charge*, to those of our Customers who prefer to have them to the ordinary size.

COAST PORT ORDERS. Whenever practicable, are despatched by first steamer leaving after receipt of order.

FOR COAST PORTS, Waters are packed and placed on board ship at Hongkong prices, and the full amount allowed for Packages and Empties when received in good order.

Counterfoil Order Books supplied on application.

Our Registered Telegraphic Address is, "DISPENSARY, HONGKONG." And all signed messages addressed thus will receive prompt attention.

The following is a List of Waters always kept ready in Stock:

PURE AERATED WATERS

SODA WATER

LEMONADE

POTASH WATER

SELTZER WATER

LITHIA WATER

SARSAPARILLA WATER

TONIC WATER

GINGER ALE

GINGERADE.

No Credit given for bottles that look dirty, or greasy, or that appear to have been used for any other purpose than that of containing Aerated Water, as such bottles are never used again by us.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED,
Hongkong, China, and Manila.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 1890.

Bigotry is still a weed of rank growth in this colony, and its chief advocate and apostle is Mr. J. FRANCIS, Q.C.

This energetic gentleman's latest public exhibition in defence of what he calls "scruples of conscience," but what we term barefaced humbug, is contained in a letter he wrote to this journal on the 22nd inst., criticising an article published in our columns and attempting to vindicate the short-sighted and narrow-minded action of Mr. Administrator FRANCIS FLEMING, C.M.G., in virtually setting aside on account of alleged personal religious beliefs or scruples the Masonic ceremonial that had been arranged, with the full approval of Governor DES VŒUX, in connection with laying the foundation stone of the Praya Reclamation during the visit of the Duke of CONNAUGHT.

Mr. FRANCIS, with that irresistible style of argument which is all his own, commences his letter by "fearing" that in our attack on the Administrator we had gone a little beyond the facts, and yet a few lines farther down he frankly admits that—

"I cannot, of course, say what H. E. the Administrator said or did in the matter, as I have had no communication with him before or since." In the face of this naive admission, we think it would have been just as well if the learned Queen's Counsel had confined himself to what he knew, and not to what he merely believed without any foundation whatever, before impugning the accuracy of our statements; however, we will let it pass as this is a special characteristic of Mr. FRANCIS for which, under all circumstances, it would perhaps be unfair to hold him responsible.

On his own confession, it was Mr. J. FRANCIS who first raised the objections, and pressed them home, against any Masonic manifestations being associated with the proposed ceremonial, on the ground that

they "would be objectionable to the Roman Catholic portion of the community, and that it was not in accordance with the fitness of things that the inauguration of a great public work should be accompanied by a ceremonial to which any section of the public had conscientious objections." Now, this may be an excellent assertion of fact, but to the superficial observer doubtless reads well; but on being analysed, what is it? In plain English, a combination of pompous twaddle, pretentious impudence, and inexcusable ignorance. Let us prove our assertions.

What status had Mr. FRANCIS to make this objection and press it home? He is, we understand, a member of the Reception Committee that has been ignored and ridiculed by the great body of the community—a Committee appointed in hole-and-corner fashion by the local Government without in any way consulting the wishes or feelings of the Hongkong public. What public interests, general or special, does the learned Q.C. represent? Does he hold a brief from Bishop RAYMOND, or from any important section of the Roman Catholic community? If so, we shall be glad to know it, and at the same time he may as well tell us what his or their interests in the Praya Reclamation scheme are. Who are the Roman Catholic objectors and what are their objections to witnessing, like other sections of the public, the Masonic procession and ceremonial against which, according to Mr. FRANCIS, they have scruples of conscience? And what does the learned counsel mean when he talks of "the inauguration of a great public work"? The Praya Reclamation is a public work in one sense, but certainly not in the light indicated by Mr. FRANCIS. It is a work to be carried out by private members of the community at their own expense and risk, and merely under Government supervision. How many Roman Catholics have actual rights of any description whatsoever in the Praya Reclamation? We know of *one* only; if there are any others, we should like to be favored with their names! But we are not likely to be, and therefore do not hesitate to say that Mr. FRANCIS's objections are as frivolous as his advocacy of an imaginary grievance is feeble and contemptible.

Does any sensible person in Hongkong believe that, outside the inner circle of the priesthood, there are a dozen Roman Catholics in the colony opposed to the Masonic arrangements which have been overthrown by the Administrator's pitiable pusillanimity? We don't. But even assuming that a powerful section of Roman Catholics had authorised Mr. FRANCIS to raise the objections he has made with such spirit and decency, we should still want, before considering their outraged conscientious scruples, a great deal more information than has yet been vouchsafed by the bellicose barrister. The supposition or presumption indicated by Mr. FRANCIS that there is anything of a religious character in the proposed Masonic ceremonial, or anything in the slightest degree calculated to offend the prejudices or ruffle the consciences of even the most bigoted apostle of Papal infallibility, is sheer idiocy.

His Excellency the Administrator, and Mr. J. FRANCIS, Q.C., object to taking part in an innocent pageant with their own countrymen and co-religionists, but they have no objection to actively participating in religious processions, theatrical performances, gorgeous banquets, and other festivities with so-called Pagan Chinese. Is it not farcical this straining at a gnat and greedily swallowing a camel? Mr. FRANCIS for once is absolutely truthful when he says it is a sad thing that there should be Catholics in Hongkong so stupid as to have what he calls conscientious objections to Free-masonry; but we can tell him that the total number of these Catholics is so insignificant as to be scarcely worth consideration. There are any number of believers in the Pope of Rome in the ranks of our Freemasons, who are not one whit the worse Catholics because they join hands with members of other creeds in carrying out the noblest work on God's earth, CHARITY, to all suffering humanity. At our Masonic balls the wives and daughters of Roman Catholics, themselves obedient children to Mother Church, are only too happy to join in the social revels and ceremonials of the ex-communited Freemasons, and we hear nothing about contamination, or outraged consciences, or religious scruples. Doubtless all such *lappas* are conveniently arranged at that degrading sham known as the Confessional!

Mr. FRANCIS's attempts at sarcasm may be compared to a man struggling to smother a mosquito with a sledge-hammer. Moreover, at the present moment they are exceedingly ill-timed, and might even lead to disastrous consequences. Unfortunately for the learned Q.C.'s argument, the "live and let live" principle he so effectively refers to is usually a very one-sided

arrangement on the part of the section of Catholics to which he belongs; they are willing to live, but they are not advocates of any other people of a different faith being allowed to exist. That is an exact description of the action taken by Mr. FRANCIS, doubtless at the instigation of the priestly keeper of his conscience, in grossly insulting the Masonic fraternity of Hongkong by his officious, meddlesome, and uncalled-for interference in a matter in which he had no legitimate concern. And in his defence of the Administrator, whose deplorable weakness, for his own sake, we infinitely regret, the learned counsel does not even stop at misrepresentation. He says that Mr. FLEMING has only acted in accordance with precedent, as somebody has told him that on the occasion of the Prince of Wales's visit to Bombay, "out of deference to Catholic feeling, some grand Masonic rite was forbidden by H. M.'s Government under circumstances similar to the present." What is the actual truth? Why, when in 1875 the Prince of Wales took the leading part in a magnificent ceremonial in connection with what is now known as "The Prince's Dock," at the special desire of His Royal Highness it was carried out with full Masonic rites, and Catholic feeling, if any such thing existed, was very properly ignored. And so it ought to have been in Hongkong, and would have been had this *bogus*, officially-appointed Reception Committee possessed any independence or truly represented the views and wishes of the public. But bigotry, backed up by unblinking impudence, carried the day, and another useless victory has been scored for Holy Rome.

TELEGRAMS.

RIOTS IN LIVERPOOL.

LONDON, March 18th.
The Dock labourers are on strike and rioting in Liverpool. The troops in the neighbourhood have been summoned.

"RANDY."

The electors of Paddington have denounced Lord Randolph Churchill's action regarding the Parnell Commission.

GERMANY.

It is stated positively that Prince Bismarck has resigned all offices.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

It is announced that the entire French cavalry will be armed with a new helmet. It is of nicked copper, with a cockade, worn for the first time by the French soldier, upon the top.

An Emergency meeting of St. John Lodge, No. 618, S.C., will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zeland Street, this evening, at 8.30 for 9 o'clock precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

LADY PAUNCEFOOTE, wife of the British Minister at Washington, is stated to have been greatly astonished at the effect of a notice that she would be at home on Saturday afternoon from 4 to 6. Nearly fourteen hundred people called and insisted on shaking hands.

An electrical instrument has been designed by which a permanent record can be automatically, continuously, and correctly kept of the course travelled by a ship. It works from the compass, and shows how steadily the ship has been kept to her course by the man at the wheel.

The ruling spirits of the Receptionists have swept away the oil-cloth imitations of decorative skill which festooned Queen's Road on Tuesday. If they would also exercise their despotic power over a few of the worm-eaten "trumpery arches" of other houses in the programme of the indefatigable custodians, are a variety of American selections, and the aria from *Maritana*. "Scenes that are brightest" is to be sung by Miss Baber.

The opportunities for seeing the Hudson Surprise Party are now reduced to two—to-morrow night will be their final show. The house last night was not so congested as usual, but the fun was loud and frequent. To-night, the scores of other houses in the programme of the indefatigable custodians, are a variety of American selections, and the aria from *Maritana*. "Scenes that are brightest" is to be sung by Miss Baber.

The increased immoral suggestiveness of the partially-concealed or the nudely-exposed was once more exemplified at the untastefully pious Barnum's Olympia show in London, where a lady-scrubbed equipped in the fashion of a female companion to another "with great scintillations, revealing little of her lower extremities." We read that the Prince of Wales watched her very intently.

The *Daily Press* says editorially that, in the discussion of the Legislative Council, on Wednesday between Mr. A. P. MacEwen and the Colonial Treasurer on the question of individual taxation here and in England, the unofficial member for the Chamber of Commerce had much the worst of the argument. Our contemporary was always a toady and lickspittle to Mr. Alfred Lister, which probably accounts for this latest exhibition of nonsensical drivel.

The full extent of the stagnation in local shares and stocks does not appear to be fully recognized, in spite of the very forcible remarks on this subject made in the Legislative Council on Wednesday last by the Hon. A. P. MacEwen, the dismal appearance of Queen's Road Central, and the phenomenal scarcity of dollars. A brokers' strike has been suggested, but that would hardly mend matters—as the brokers' business has been out on strike for the past six months.

A STRANGE and mysterious tragedy was discovered by the police this morning. About six o'clock some water-policemen noticed a body floating in the Ly-e-mun Pass, and on lifting it out of the water found it to be that of a Chinaman about 40 years of age. His head had been horribly chopped, but he had evidently not been many hours in the water. The peculiarity of the case, however, lay in the fact that a small piece of board was tied to the end of his queue, on which was written 海味 雜貨 人 肉 食 人 肉 (Hoi chi, hui lau, lai yan yuk shi yan yuk). The English of this is "Sea Food" (a slang term for informers), "eat man's flesh" (meaning lives on blood money). It is surmised that the deceased was a Customs informer who had fallen a victim to his enemies' vengeance. The police are investigating the matter.

In another column we publish the programme of the Easter *wagijnshaw* of the Rifle Association.

We are requested to correct a mis-statement in our paragraph in a recent issue with respect to the officers of the Canadian Pacific Company's steamship *Bahama*. The mistake of "wagijnshaw" was far and given, the officers informed without trouble of any kind, and simply through the ready recognition by the Marine Superintendent of their good services, and subject, of course, to the owners' approval.

OUR latest Australian advices inform us that poor old Ike Austin—who ran a shooting saloon in the Hongkong Hotel bowling alley with distinguished success for several months, about eight years ago—has lately opened classes in the Sydney "to instruct ladies and gents in the art of using fire-arms." It is interesting to note that the "revolver is a specialty." Ike was a curiosity in his way, but he could shoot. He left here for the Colonies with Litherland Cunard, who at one time was partner with Kellar, the best man at legdemain Hongkong has ever seen.

THE musical critic (7) of our morning contemporary has made a most astonishing discovery in a criticism (7) of the amateur concert held in the St. Andrew's Hall the other evening—said criticism being a column of the most sickening and meaningless twaddle we have come across for many a long day—this gullest youth tells us that "a vocal solo by Mrs. Guedes was rendered in a manner which places her in a prominent position among *sic* mezzo-sopranos." The vocal solo was Rossini's famous cavatina "Una voce poco fa," sung by *Rosina* in "Il Barbiere," and Senhora Maria Guedes for the past fifteen years has been one of the acknowledged vocal soloists in both *artistic* and *popular* as an exponent of Italian operatic music. It must be flustering to this accomplished lady to find herself placed after all these years, by a critic—save the mark!—who knows as much about high-class music as our office goat, in a prominent position amongst local mezzo-sopranos!

IN answer to several inquiries recently received we may state that the difference between a fair "wagijnshaw" transaction was pretty clearly defined by the Court of Queen's Bench last Summer. The decision was practically that, while money due for a bet is not recoverable at law, a man who deliberately "wagijnshaw" another out of his money is guilty of fraud. Lord Coleridge and Mr. Justice Day laid it down that to obtain money by means of a trick, even if it were connected with a betting transaction, was larceny pure and simple, and we really cannot see how any other sensible decision could have been arrived at. It is exactly the same in betting on the race-course as in gaming transactions, and the same principle applies to both. A genuine wager on a race or on differences in shares is not a contract that the law will enforce; but wagijnshaw—that is a bogus bet—the law regards as a crime, and punishes accordingly.

SARASATE's career in New York, according to the *SWN*, has not been important outside of his stage performances. At one time he threatened to be a great success, and he certainly is a fact that his manœuvres on the stage suggested the poisons of Montague, Bellevue, and Tarte at their best, but Mr. Sarasate did not in any sense follow up in the streets the reputation he had made behind the footlights. A certain amount of Broadway parading seems to be necessary to the full success of a master in this sort of work, and it was here that Sarasate's indifference was displayed. His photographs were sold largely and the matinees where he played brought out great crowds of women, but the indifference of the Spaniard to the vulgar adulation is profound. When not playing in public he is lounging about in his rooms, playing the violin occasionally, piquet a good deal, and reading vast numbers of yellow-covered French novels. *La gripe* has not affected his violin playing, but it has called forth some very sultry remarks incidentally as the season has progressed.

HERE is a little thing in "Plain English" from the irrepressible *Sunday Bulletin*, on Brokers' Rights and Privileges, to which we would direct the special attention of the local fraternity.—The Melbourne Stock Exchange received a "nasty jar" the other week when J. B. Patterson sold a batch of the late J. B. Watson's investment stocks by public auction. Immediately upon the announcement of this coming sale, the shareholders passed a solemn resolution to the effect that it was an infringement of their rights and privileges—in short, a wicked scheme for robbing the hungry vulture of his "pickings." Then a deputation waited upon the offending auctioneer (or sent him a loud and frequent "to-night," the scores of other houses in the programme of the indefatigable custodians, are a variety of American selections, and the aria from *Maritana*. "Scenes that are brightest" is to be sung by Miss Baber.

The opportunities for seeing the Hudson Surprise Party are now reduced to two—to-morrow night will be their final show. The house last night was not so congested as usual, but the fun was loud and frequent. To-night, the scores of other houses in the programme of the indefatigable custodians, are a variety of American selections, and the aria from *Maritana*. "Scenes that are brightest" is to be sung by Miss Baber.

The increased immoral suggestiveness of the partially-concealed or the nudely-exposed was once more exemplified at the untastefully pious Barnum's Olympia show in London, where a lady-scrubbed equipped in the fashion of a female companion to another "with great scintillations, revealing little of her lower extremities." We read that the Prince of Wales watched her very intently.

The *Daily Press* says editorially that, in the discussion of the Legislative Council, on Wednesday between Mr. A. P. MacEwen and the Colonial Treasurer on the question of individual taxation here and in England, the unofficial member for the Chamber of Commerce had much the worst of the argument. Our contemporary was always a toady and lickspittle to Mr. Alfred Lister, which probably accounts for this latest exhibition of nonsensical drivel.

The full extent of the stagnation in local shares and stocks does not appear to be fully recognized, in spite of the very forcible remarks on this subject made in the Legislative Council on Wednesday last by the Hon. A. P. MacEwen, the dismal appearance of Queen's Road Central, and the phenomenal scarcity of dollars. A brokers' strike has been suggested, but that would hardly mend matters—as the brokers' business has been out on strike for the past six months.

A STRANGE and mysterious tragedy was discovered by the police this morning. About six o'clock some water-policemen noticed a body floating in the Ly-e-mun Pass, and on lifting it out of the water found it to be that of a Chinaman about 40 years of age. His head had been horribly chopped, but he had evidently not been many hours in the water. The peculiarity of the case, however, lay in the fact that a small piece of board was tied to the end of his queue, on which was written 海味 雜貨 人 肉 食 人 肉 (Hoi chi, hui lau, lai yan yuk shi yan yuk). The English of this is "Sea Food" (a slang term for informers), "eat man's flesh" (meaning lives on blood money). It is surmised that the deceased was a Customs informer who had fallen a victim to his enemies' vengeance. The police are investigating the matter.

The Prince of Monaco recently promised his wife to close the gambling bank if another suicide occurred. The suicide has happened, but the bank is still open.

A REGULAR meeting of Zeland Lodge, No. 535, will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zeland Street, on Thursday, the 28th proximo, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

A SAN FRANCISCO contemporary cheerfully remarks:—"Manager Austin is said to have offered Nellie Bly \$500 a week to relate the story of her travels in Boston. She might possibly make a little more on the outside if she sold the right to use her pictures properly inscribed to some dentifrice maker. The portraits of the globe trotter, as exhibited in this city, present her grinning from ear to ear and displaying a formidable array of teeth. The smile is worthy of a piquant sauce advertisement."

THE *Maiden Lelander* and dear old *Morning Granny* are once more on the war-path, the bone of contention on this occasion being an alleged letter regarding the Chinese demonstrations in honour (?) of the visit of the "Dook" of Connaught published by the latter. The "Maiden" one says that the motive of the attempt made by *Granny* to annoy "the indefatigable Secretary and the Committee, who have done their work well," it is only the Secretary who is indefatigable, *dye-see*, not the Committee, *dye-see*, *dye-see*, is not far to seek and is not very creditable. This is a bit rough on our morning contemporary, and evidently is intended to suggest something very nasty. When birds of a feather, etc., etc.

IN answer to several correspondents we have to state that the amateur concert given on Wednesday night at the Alice Memorial Hospital was not dealt with in our columns for the simple reason that the customary invitation was not sent to this office. When the press is not officially invited to an amateur performance it is understood that the performers are desirous of not being publicly criticised, and as a matter of courtesy we have invariably adhered to that rule. In this particular instance, however, notices of the concert have appeared in both our contemporaries, so that we can only conclude either that some of the talented vocalists preferred soft soap to intelligible criticism, or that the person who managed this part of the business has yet a great deal to learn both as regards courtesy and compromise. A competent musician who was present informs us that with the exception of two or three items, the concert was feeble beyond description, so that it is perhaps just as well that we were not there.

MR. EDWARD TYRRELL SMITH, with whom I had business relations for some three or four years, writes Mr. Mapleson in his "Memoirs," "was an extraordinary personage, whose like could be met with only in our own time and in such capitals as London or Paris, where the population in general has certainly not the faintest idea how small a part of that population lives. Mr. E. T. Smith had made up his mind early in life to be the possessor, or at least the handler, of considerable sums of money; and he at one time found it worth his while, so as never to be without funds, to hire daily, at the rate of one pound a day, a thousand-pound note, which was obligingly intrusted to him by a money-lender of the period, one Sam Genesee. There are not many persons to whom such a loan would be worth the thirty-six and a-half per cent. interest which Mr. E. T. Smith paid for it. He was an adept, however, at all kinds of business, and his thousand-pound note enabled him to make purchases on credit which without deposit-money he would have been unable to effect. Attending sales, he would buy whatever happened to suit him, with a view to immediate resale, offering his thousand-pound note as a deposit, to discover as a matter of course that it could not be changed, and have the article for which he had bid marked down to him all the same. Then he would re-sell it and pocket the difference." Unless we greatly err there are certain share gamblers in this colony who have played an almost similar game to this with more or less success—some have come to financial grief, some have made money, and some who are not in goal ought to be there.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY.

The adjourned annual meeting of the shareholders of the above Company was held this afternoon, in the Hongkong Hotel. Mr. C. Ewens, general manager, presided, and Messrs. L. Posenacker, G. Fenwick, T. Arnold, H. J. James, W. Judd, R. K. Leigh, J. Barton, J. D. Hutchison, G. Murray Baln, R. Dipple, Sui Ansin, Poon Fong, Lee Sing, J. de Sonnaville, etc., and J. Foreman, (secretary) were present.

The Chairman said that the annual meeting on the 28th ult. had to be adjourned on account of an insufficient attendance, the only business done being the election of directors. Since then Messrs. Danby, Leigh, and Orange, and Mr. Denison, had reported on the Company's cement very favorably. He (the Chairman) had also approached the Government and the military authorities with respect to using the cement, and they were now experimenting with it. Mr. Brown, the Surveyor-General, had promised to visit Green Island when he had time, and in the meantime the works would probably be asked to take samples to be sent to London for analysis and test. The tests on the part of the engineers had been extremely satisfactory. The repairs to the large kilns were now completed, he was glad to say, Mr. Fenwick, who had seen several times, being quite satisfied with it, and there was no fear of its collapsing again. Several small kilns, capable of turning out about 200 tons a week, had also been built, and when all was over, the works would be enabled to produce 1,000 tons a week. At the last meeting some opinions had been expressed in favor of forfeiting shares on which only a call of £5 had been paid, of which, unfortunately, there were still a large number. There was some difficulty in dealing with them, as many persons held both classes of shares. After considering the matter carefully the directors had decided to call a meeting to deal with it. The time for doing so had better be left to them, considering the large number they held. He then moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. Arnold asked several questions on the working account, inquiring who was responsible for the collapse of the kiln. The Chairman replied evasively, and said that the loss was about \$2,000. With respect to the question of interest on calls, he had been unable to allow several weeks' grace. Mr. Arnold thought that was "nasty" to those who paid promptly, and who sometimes had to borrow money to do so. He was in favor of charging interest—every day, he said. He continued:—"With reference to the item in the Assets Account for the purchase of the old Company's property, how much of this \$45,000 represents machinery and actual assets, and how much good-will?" The Chairman offered to give the information at the office. Mr. Arnold pressed for it then. It should be stated in the accounts, "it was difficult to see where the 'good-will' came from, since the business had been going on for 10 years, and the value of the plant balance-sheet?"

The Chairman—We can make a rough calculation now if desired.

Mr. Arnold—Surely you know what was actually paid for machinery?

The Chairman—Yes, but some of it is more valuable now than before. There is the increased value of the land. The good-will was put in.

Mr. Arnold—There is \$86,000 in another place for machinery. The Chairman—That has been bought since. Mr. Arnold—You spoke about holding a meeting to deal with shares. I would suggest that it should also consider the desirability of altering the Articles of Association—anyone who has perused them will see how defective they are—there is no power in them for the directors to deal with unpaid calls. They should be altered so as to give that power. They should also be altered in other respects.

Mr. Leigh—What was the capital of the old Company? Wasn't it \$50,000, in 25 shares? Then when the new Company was formed they were made \$50 shares, so that that accounts for half of the \$50,000.

The Chairman—That is so.

Mr. Leigh—That accounts for half of the present capital.

Mr. Arnold—That is the value of the good-will then.

Mr. James, on a hint from the Chairman, rose and seconded the adoption of the report, etc., which was agreed to.

Some discussion then took place as to the alterations in the Articles of Association, but nothing was fixed when the proceedings terminated.

THE FATALITY ON THE "FUSHIKI MARU."

THE INQUEST.

Capt. Rumsey, as acting magistrate, held an inquiry this morning into the circumstances attending the deaths of the eight Japanese on board the *Fushiki Maru*, reported in our columns yesterday.

J. C. Francis said—I am the master of the *Fushiki Maru*. We arrived at Nagasaki on the 19th instant, to take in coal. We took in coal until the 21st, working the first and second days until five, and finishing on the 21st at 3 p.m. The coal was brought on board in tubs, and amounted to about 500 tons. The bulkhead between No. 3 hatch and the water-tank chamber was covered up with coal on the 20th. The vessel lay in the stream, and alongside the wharf. Anybody coming off, unless they looked suspicious, would be allowed on board. At night two quarter-masters are on duty: to see that no Japanese come aboard. We left Nagasaki on the 21st, for Hongkong. The first idea we had that these people were on board was after our arrival in Hongkong, on the 26th, when we began to discharge cargo. It was informed that there was an awl-mell in the engine-room. We put it down to dead rats, and looked everywhere, but we couldn't find any. Then the chief engineer decided to open the main-hold leading from the engine-room into the bulkhead. A lot of trouble the cover was taken off, and some legs were seen sticking out. That was reported to me about 9 p.m. on the 26th. By that time the coal under No. 3 hatch had been sufficiently removed to give access to the bulkhead, and the four women and eight bodies were found. The women had to be assisted out. I don't know what the bodies were like, as I couldn't stand the smell. The steamer was searched for stow-aways by the police before leaving Nagasaki.

Dr. Jordan said—I am the Health Officer of the port. I have examined the bodies, and the bodies were found. It is utterly unfit for occupation, on account of the absence of ventilation, owing to its being surrounded by coal and rendered absolutely air-tight, except for the slight leakage through the cargo. I have not seen the survivors. Death was the result of asphyxiation. Edmund Bragg, third mate on the *Fushiki Maru*, said—On the night of the 19th there was not much coal in No. 3 hold. It was then possible for the girls to have come on board. They must have been smuggled on board, as no women are allowed in the hold. To get into the hold they must have climbed down the iron ladder. I saw the bodies taken out. When we began to knock the bulk-head away we heard the survivors calling out. We found them on the port side, near one body. They got out with a little assistance. I think they must have got in the day we arrived at Nagasaki. The place is not easy of access, and I think they must have had assistance from some of the crew. No one would believe that it would be possible to live in there if the coal was all round them. It may be that the hiding-place has been used by one or two before, but not more. Women have been found stowed away in various places before.

The old woman who was one of the four survivors was then called. She said—I am a widow. The deceased man frequently came to my place at Oura, near Nagasaki. He was a small shop-keeper in the next village. He asked me to come to Hongkong, where he would find me a place as a maid. I at length consented, and he took me off to the steamer. When we got on board, he took me down to the hold, and I saw several women. There were already several women there, and there were no coals in the hold at that time. When I heard them commence loading, I wanted to get out, and called aloud, but no one heard me. About three hours after that the men went away again, and came back with three more girls, one of whom I knew by sight. There were seven or eight there before. It was after dark when I went on board. The man gave me some bread, and seemed to have food stowed away. He told me the ship would go in five days, but I don't know how long we were there; we heard the engines begin to work, as we could not tell whether it was day or night. I had not expected to have to come over in that way; we asked him, and he said that it was only for a short time, until we got to sea. I don't know who died first. Some of the girls who died had told me that the man had induced them to come on board. We asked him, when our confinement became unbearable, if he intended to kill us, and he replied that he was suffering just as much as we. I know that there is a law place against stowing away without a passport. I had none. No policeman saw us go on board, and we did not speak to any of the crew.

One of the girls, apparently about 17 years of age, said—I live with my parents at Nagasaki. The man told me I should find Hongkong a good place and that I could soon earn plenty of money to send to my friends. He asked me to come with him, and said he could send me on board the steamer in the ballast-boat. I waited along the wharf, and a considerable time passed. We were there for five or six days. Eventually the man came and took me on board the steamer. He showed me the way. We went down seven decks, and he brought me to a small boat, about two feet wide. I went in and found some people already there. It was too dark to tell how many; the man came too. Some things appeared and I asked him for food and he gave me a small piece of bread. When I afterwards asked for more, no answer came. I think he was dead then. I heard the steamer starting, and I caught my breath long; this was after stowing on board the ship. I think it was the evening of the 19th. I did not find out the names of any of

For Sale

A Pleasing Sense of Health and
Strength Renewed, and of
Ease and Comfort
Follows the use of Syrup of Figs, as it acts
gently on the
KIDNEYS, LIVER AND BOWELS

Effectually Cleansing the System when
Costive or Bilious, Dispelling
Colds, Headaches and Fevers
and permanently curing
HABITUAL CONSTIPATION
without weakening or irritating the organs
on which it acts.
For Sale in 50c and \$1.00 Bottles by all
Leading Druggists.

Printed and Published by ROBERT FRASER,
No. 4, Fraser's Lane, in the city of Victoria, Hongkong.